



## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

OFFICE OF WATER

6/30/05

### MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Office Directors, Office of Water  
Regional Water Division Directors, Regions 1 - 10  
Great Waterbody Program Directors  
Water Subobjective Team Co-Chairs/Staff Leads

**FROM:** Michael H. Shapiro, Deputy Assistant Administrator /s/

**SUBJECT:** Final *National Water Program FY 2005 Mid-Year Performance Report*

I am pleased to provide you with the final *National Water Program 2005 Mid Year Performance Report*. The report describes the progress we are making as of the mid-point in FY 2005 (i.e. through March 2005) toward the goals and objectives described in the EPA *Strategic Plan*. It can also be found on the Internet at ([www.epa.gov/water/waterplan](http://www.epa.gov/water/waterplan)).

This *Report* is based on materials and analysis developed during April and May by Subobjective Implementation Teams addressing each of the ten key subobjectives in the EPA *Strategic Plan* related to the National Water Program and includes three major elements:

- performance overviews, highlights, and next steps for each subobjective;
- overall conclusions and recommendations; and
- appendices including summaries of recent reports by the EPA Inspector General and the GAO, and a status report on PART studies of water programs; a report summarizing the recent assessment of the Region 10 water program will be posted to the Internet shortly.

In general terms, water program implementation at the mid-point of FY 2005 is strong and is consistent across the EPA Regional office water programs. EPA and States are making progress toward more effective integration of programs and are expanding efforts to coordinate our work with that of other agencies implementing related programs.

At the same time, our performance with respect to measures of environmental and public health improvements is mixed or not yet established. Although available data indicate that we are on track to meet about half of the subobjective goals in the *Strategic Plan*, we are still awaiting data for several goals and are not making the progress we expected with respect to several additional goals (see Table II; page 26). In addition, in looking across all the subobjectives, more work needs to be done to improve tribal program implementation, to improve coordination with respect to compliance and enforcement, to respond to issues related to mercury in water, and to reduce lag times in reporting and analysis of key data.

I want to thank the water program managers and staff who supported this mid-year

performance assessment through the development of mid-year data, the organization of subobjective briefings, and the review of the draft *Report*. I am confident that the assessment of our progress at the mid-year will result in program management improvements and increase the likelihood of meeting our end of year commitments.

Please feel free to contact me if you have comments or questions (202-564-5700). Please contact Elana Goldstein (202-564-1800) if you would like additional printed copies of the *Report*.

Attachment:

*National Water Program FY 2005 Mid-Year Performance Assessment*

cc: Ben Grumbles  
Brent Fewell  
Tim Fontaine  
Jeff Peterson  
Kathy O'Brien, OCFO  
MaryJo Blumenfeld, OCFO  
Office of Water *Strategic Plan* Implementation Workgroup